

Source Letter

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FIRST OFF... I'd like to thank Colin Gregory of *The Villager* newspaper for inviting me and Pam Pier of Dinosaur Hill to be on his radio show/podcast about small businesses in the East Village. It was a blast to do & you can hear it by going to our website, thesourceunltd.com -click the "press" link on the main page, on the Press page click on the link "NY TALK RADIO.NET Podcast #53 Spotlight on Biz & Ent. w/Biggins & Gregory." On a sadder note, we say goodbye to Maria Marko, a village presence for many, many years with her Maria M shop on 2nd Ave and later, on 9th Street, who passed away in April. She was a good neighbor and will be missed. Once again, Shop local, and keep the community strong, vital and real.

INFORMATION

Attn. Parkers: Alternate Parking is suspended:

- May 21st Thursday Solemnity of the Ascension
- May 25th Monday Memorial Day
- May 29-30th Fri./Sat. Shavuot (2 Days)



- The Ninth Precinct Community Council Meeting is on Wednesday, May 20th, 7pm @ 321 East 5th Street
Phone: 212-477-7805 www.thenewninthprecinct.org



- VISIONS @ Selis Manor, 135 W. 23rd St., is looking for "walkers" to assist seniors who are blind & visually impaired enrolled in a "Walk for Your Health" class. The 10 week class takes place from 2pm-4pm on Fridays until June 26th. No experience required, training provided. Contact: Melissa Phipps, Coordinator (646) 486-4444



- **HELP OUT...** contribute to our ongoing food drive to benefit The Middle Collegiate Church Food Pantry Program. Bring your **CANNED ONLY** goods to our store. Thanks

EVENTS

GET LISTED! UPCOMING EVENTS, GIGS, ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST... To submit, e-mail us at santo@sourceunltd.com OR stop by our store @ 331 E. 9th Street *Inclusion subject to space availability.*

- **GOTHAM GIRLS ROLLER DERBY...** The National Champs are back! The Brooklyn Bombshells vs Manhattan Mayhem, May 16 at Hunter College Sportsplex. Doors open at 6:30. Opening whistle at 8:30pm. Lex Ave. at 68th Street. Info at 888-830-2253. After party at Manitoba's Bar, 99 Avenue B.



- **14TH ANNUAL L.E.S. FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS TNC**
Sat., May 23rd, 10am-6pm OUTSIDE on 10th Street is the Cultural Fair, Performances, Food, Vendors, more...
2pm-5pm INSIDE - Youth Performances in the Johnson Theater
12pm-12am - Film Festival in the Cabaret Theater
6pm - 1am - Plays, Music, Dance, Poetry, Comedy in the Johnson Theater. ALL AT Theater for the New City, 155 First Avenue (bet. 9th and 10th Streets) 212-254-1109

- **LOVE'S LABOURS LOST...** Presented by Juilliard School Drama Division, Directed by Gus Kaikkonen, Original music composed and performed by Ellen Mandel. "A delightful comedy performed by a talented young cast..." Tickets are free, but you must reserve, and seats go fast. Call for performance dates & times: 212-799-5000 ext 654. At Juilliard, 60 Lincoln Center Plaza (W. 65 Street, between Bdw and Amsterdam Ave)

- **POETRY & COLLABORATIONS...** Stephen McLaughlin and Phillip Dmochowski are the editors of Principal Hand Pub. Series. Stephen is a poet/programmer whose first release was *Issue 1*, a 3,785-page e-chap. Stephen edits the podcast "PoemTalk at the Writers House.", Phillip is an artist, DJ, & director of DNA Gallery in MA. His first book is, *Indian Method*, Friday, May 29th, 10:00pm @ The Poetry Project, 131 East 10th Street, Info: (212) 674-0910

- **R. NEMO HILL PRESENTS..** Active Ingredients: Active O program #4, "It's the man with the drop of wine on his brow." The Poetry of Robert Desnos, read by Adriana Scopino & R. Nemo Hill (in the isolation booth) Monday, May 4th, 8pm @ The Stone, NW Corner, 2nd Street & Avenue C.

- **1st PUNK ROPE OLYMPICS...** Opening Ceremonies 2pm to 2:10pm, Competition 2:10pm-4 pm. Awards & Picnic 4pm-6pm Olympians and spectators welcome! Rain or shine! Saturday, May 16th, McCarren Park, Softball Field #2 (enter park at Bedford Ave north of 12th St across from the Automotive HS), Williamsburg, Brooklyn

- **OYA...** Original Jazz and Afro Cuban Music with Evans Thompson and True Story in a tribute to Mother's Day, Sun. May 10th, 5 - 7pm @ St. Marks Church in the Bowery, 10th Street and 2nd Avenue, Contact Evans at 212-473-1017

- **SINGERS & SONGWRITERS IN BLOOM...** Spring Show in the Garden, Coordinated by Joffrey Wilson. Saturday, May 30th, 7:30pm, raindate: May 31st @ The 6B Garden, 6th St. and Avenue B. Visit: www.6bgarden.org

- **SANTO GIGS...** with DB Rielly, www.dbrilly.com
 - Tuesday, May 5th, 8pm-10pm, @ Pine Tree Lodge, 591 First Avenue (bet. 33rd & 34th Sts.) NYC
 - Friday, May 15th, Waltz-Astoria, 23-14 Ditmars Boulevard, Astoria, NY @ 10pm
 - Sunday, May 31st, 3pm, @ LIC Art Center 44-02 23rd Street, Long Island City, NY



GUEST COLUMN OF THE MONTH Be Part of the Guest Column. Submit stories, photos, drawings to: santo@sourceunltd.com

GUEST COLUMN Yip Harburg, "Broadway's Social Conscience"

YIP HARBURG --- "Broadway's Social Conscience"

E. Y. (Yip) Harburg, often known as "Broadway's Social Conscience," was born on April 8, 1896 of Russian-Jewish immigrant parents, raised in poverty on Manhattan's Lower East Side, and attended City College of New York. Yip was a master lyricist, poet and bookwriter who was dedicated to social justice.

Radio reporter, Amy Goodman on *Democracy Now!*, spoke with Ernie Harburg, Yip's son and biographer, who co-wrote the book *Who Put the Rainbow in The Wizard of Oz?: Yip Harburg, Lyricist*, on how Yip got his start

Ernie states that "Yip was, at a very early age, interested in poetry, and used to go to the Tompkins Square Library to read, and the librarians just fed him these things.

He got hooked on every one of the English poets, especially O. Henry, the ending. He always has a little great ending on the end of each of his songs. He got hooked on W.S. Gilbert, *The Bab Ballads*. When he went to Townsend High, they had them sitting in the seats by alphabetical order, so Yip was "H" and Gershwin was "G", so Ira sat next to Yip. One day, Yip walked in with *The Bab Ballads*, and Ira, who was very shy and hardly spoke with anybody, just lit up and said, "Do you like those?" And they got into a conversation, Ira then said, "Do you know there's music to that?" And Yip said, "No." He said, "Well, come on home." So they went to Ira's home, which was on 2nd Avenue and 5th Street which is sort of upper from Yip's poverty at 11th and C. And they had a Victrola, which is like having, you know, huge instruments today, and played him *H.M.S. Pinafore*. Well, Yip was just absolutely flabbergasted, knocked out. And that did it. I mean, for the both of them, because Ira was intensely interested in that thing, too. That began their lifelong friendship."

On Broadway, Yip began writing lyrics for multiple revues in the 1930s which included songs that became standards including "Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?," the classic anthem of the Depression (with composer Jay Gorney, 1932) and "April in Paris" (with Vernon Duke, He wrote lyrics for the satiric *Life Begins at 8:40* with co-lyricist Ira Gershwin and music by Harold Arlen.

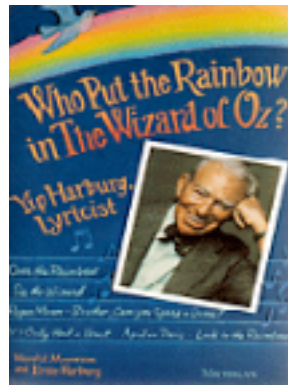
He also conceived and wrote lyrics for book musicals with political and social themes, including *Hooray for What!* (1937, with an anti-war theme, music by Arlen) and *Bloomer Girl* (1944, feminist, anti-racist theme.) He co-wrote the book (with Fred Saisy) and wrote the lyrics for *Finian's Rainbow* (1947, music by Burton Lane) which won the Henderson and George Jean Nathan Awards for Best Musical Comedy, for *Flahooley* (1951, music by Sammy Fain), and for *Jamaica*, starring Lena Horne (1957, music by Arlen).

In Hollywood, Yip Harburg wrote lyrics for numerous film musicals during the 1930's and 1940's. His most famous work was *The Wizard of Oz* (1939, with Arlen).

In this classic, Yip conceived the integration of song and script, wrote the recitative for the Munchkin "operetta," and wrote the lyrics to all the songs, including the Academy Award winning classic, "Over the Rainbow." He was also the final script editor and made significant contributions to the dialogue. In 1962 he and Arlen scored the animated *Gay Purr-ee* (now a video classic featuring the wonderful voice of Judy Garland). From 1951 to 1961 during the House Un-American Activities Committee investigations and the McCarthy hearings Yip was "blacklisted" for his political views

from film, television and radio. Broadway, however, remained free from this kind of censorship

Yip followed the dream of democratic socialism: He believed that all people should be guaranteed basic human rights, political equality, free education, economic opportunity and free health services. He spent most of his life fighting for these goals; his songs "Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?" and "Over the Rainbow" express these universal cries for hope in hard times to all peoples. As Broadway's social commentator, and given his ability to "gild the philosophic pill" with witticisms and a lyric style all his own, Yip Harburg is a unique and major lyricist of 20th century American musical theatre. Yip Harburg died on March 5, 1981 at 84 years young.



The Yip Harburg Foundation was created to promote educational opportunity, social and economic justice, world peace and Yip's artistic legacy. We thank them for letting us use some of their information.

Satch's Corner Where you can read about some good cd's, books and videos

You can buy this disk on our website: www.thesourceunltd.com (Just click on the Amazon logo)

NEVILLE BROTHERS --YELLOW MOON



Along with Dr. John and Allan Toussaint, the Neville Brothers are New Orleans' music royalty and on this disc they hook up with producer Daniel Lanois to produce a disc that is equal parts funk, spiritual and political, a real gumbo. From the opening bass lines of "My Blood" thru the shout outs of "Wake Up" to Aaron Neville's chilling "With God On Our Side" Lanois takes you on a streetcar ride, providing a taste of all the styles at his disposal. Worth several listens. I give it 4 bones.

See you next time on the corner...



"Satch" drawing by Sara Hauser